

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Claims 1 to 24 (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A catheter clamp comprising:

a body having:

a first portion having a first top face sized to retain at least one catheter thereon and

having a catheter-engaging surface ~~free of sharps~~;

a second portion having a second top face sized to retain at least one catheter thereon and

having a catheter-engaging surface ~~free of sharps~~;

a hinge connecting the first portion and the second portion, such that the first portion is

disposable to face toward the second portion when the first portion is pivoted

about the hinge toward the second portion and such that the at least one catheter is

frictionally ~~engaged~~ engageable by and retainable between the first and second

top faces in a nondamaging manner;

a locking member for releasably locking a free end portion of the first portion to the

second portion upon the first and second portions being relatively pivoted

together about the at least one catheter; and

at least one of the first and second top faces further comprises, prior to engaging the at

least one catheter, a recessed area disposed between the hinge and the locking

member and extending between the catheter-engaging surfaces thereby spacing

them apart and defining at least one catheter-receiving channel extending across

the width of the first and second top faces, wherein the recessed area is sized to

accept the at least one catheter.

26. (Canceled)
27. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the recessed area is sized to accept at least two catheters.
28. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, further comprising at least one rib extending from the recessed area toward the other of the first and second top faces.
29. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein each of the first and second top faces comprises, prior to engaging the at least one catheter, a recessed area disposed between the hinge and the free end portion thereof, wherein both of the recessed areas together are sized to accept at least one catheter.
30. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 29, wherein both of the recessed areas together are sized to accept at least two catheters.
31. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 29, further comprising at least one rib extending from each of the recessed areas toward the other thereof.
32. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the clamp is constructed from polypropylene.
33. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the clamp is of unitary construction.
34. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the second portion comprises a gripping ring disposed distal from the hinge.
35. (Withdrawn) The catheter clamp according to claim 34, wherein the second portion further comprises a narrowed neck disposed between the gripping ring and the locking member.
36. (Withdrawn) The catheter clamp according to claim 34, wherein the second portion further comprises a transverse V-shaped groove disposed between the gripping ring and the locking member.

37. (Withdrawn) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the locking member comprises a guide disposed along a first side of the second portion and a cantilevered portion extending from a second side of the second portion, juxtaposed from the guide, wherein the cantilevered portion comprises a latching ledge extending toward the guide, and the free end portion of the first portion comprises a narrow elongate tab having a side edge adjacent the cantilevered portion during locking for being latched beneath the latching ledge.

38. (Withdrawn) The catheter clamp according to claim 37, wherein the second portion includes a flexible section located between the guide and the cantilevered portion.

39. (Withdrawn) The catheter clamp according to claim 37, wherein the free end portion of the first portion further comprises a raised portion such that, when the first portion is disposed toward the second portion, the raised portion maintains at least a portion of the first top face of the first portion away from the second top face of the second portion.

40. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 47, wherein the locking member for releasably connecting the free end of the first portion to second portion comprises the first portion having a slot, and the locking member of the second portion is a vertically projecting tab, wherein the vertically projecting tab is positioned to be releasably inserted into the slot for locking thereto.

41. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 40, wherein a surface of the vertically projecting tab faces away from the hinge and includes a ledge that latches to an edge of the slot.

42. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 41, wherein a top portion of the surface of the tab facing away from the hinge is beveled above the locking latch.

43. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 40, wherein a top of the vertically projecting tab is rounded.

44. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 40, wherein the vertically projecting tab is adapted to be biased toward the hinge permitting manual deflection thereof for release.
45. (Withdrawn) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the locking member is a vertically projecting tab including a ledge facing the hinge that is positioned to lock atop a transverse end edge of the free end portion of the first portion, and further including a cantilevered portion extending away from the hinge that is adapted to be biased toward the second top face of the second portion.
46. (Withdrawn) The catheter clamp according to claim 45, wherein the first top face includes a vertical projection that is adapted to be received into a complementary slot on the second top face upon latching of the first portion to the second portion.
47. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the hinge consists of a single hinge.
48. (Previously presented) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the first portion is directly joined to the second portion by the hinge.
49. (New) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the recessed areas define a catheter-receiving channel sufficiently wide for at least two catheters.
50. (New) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the recessed areas define at least two spaced-apart catheter-receiving channels.
51. (New) The catheter clamp according to claim 25, wherein the catheter-engaging surfaces are free of sharp projections extending into the recessed areas.